



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,850	09/25/2003	William J. McFarland	355053.00710 - PATENT	8691

7590 06/21/2005

John W. Carpenter
Reed Smith Crosby Heafey LLP
P.O. Box 7936
San Francisco, CA 94120-7936

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOANG V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2821

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,850

Applicant(s)

McFARLAND ET AL

Examiner

Hoang V. Nguyen

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-32, 36-42, 62 and 64-73 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 36-42, 62 and 64-73 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 19 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 20 and 24-32 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: 6/13/05.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The indicated allowability of claims 19 and 21-23 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Gomez et al (US 5,134,418). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John Carpenter on 13 June 2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 69, line 6, delete [has a value related to] and insert --is configured to identify-- in place thereof.

Claim 72, line 1, delete [76] and insert --71-- in place thereof.

The examiner's amendment was done in order to distinct claim 69 from claim 66 as well as correct the dependency of claim 72.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 2821

5. Claims 19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gomez et al (US 5,134,418).

Regarding claim 19, Gomez (Figures 2-3) discloses an apparatus for sensing the integrity of an antenna comprising at least one antenna element 202; at least one electronic component 216 being configured to identify at least one property of the antenna. It would be inherent that the antenna element and the at least one electronic component are connected to an RF input pin such that the electronic component can sense the integrity of the antenna.

Regarding claim 21, as applied to claim 19, Gomez teaches that the at least one electronic component is a circuit 216 having a resonant frequency related to the at least one property of the antenna.

Regarding claim 22, as applied to claim 19, Figure 3 of Gomez shows that the at least one electronic component is a microchip 216 configured to transmit a value related to antenna properties via the RF input pin.

Regarding claim 23, as applied to claim 19, Figure 3 of Gomez shows that the at least one electronic component is a microchip 216 configured to send a challenge response in response to a challenge, the challenge response including a value related to the at least one property of the antenna.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 20 and 24-32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 36-42, 62 and 64-73 are allowed.

Art Unit: 2821

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 20, Gomez fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the at least one electronic component is a resistor having a value related to the at least one property of the antenna.

Regarding claim 24, Gomez fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the at least one electronic component is located in a location that it cannot be easily removed or modified.

Regarding claim 25, Gomez fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the at least one electronic component is substantially surrounded by the at least one antenna element.

Regarding claims 26 and 27, Gomez fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the at least one electronic component is embedded within a substrate holding the at least one antenna element.

Regarding claims 28-31, Gomez fails to further teach, among other features, that the at least one antenna element comprises a first antenna element connected to the RF input pin and a second antenna connected to a ground pin; and the at least one electronic component is connected between the RF pin and the ground pin.

Regarding claim 32, Gomez fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the antenna is a dual element planar antenna.

Regarding claim 36, Gomez fails to disclose an antenna comprising a set of data pins and an RF input pin; at least one antenna element connected to the RF input pin; and a series of shorts and opens connected to a set of data pins; and wherein the antenna is a dual element planar antenna.

Regarding claim 37, Gomez fails to disclose an antenna comprising a set of input pins and an RF input pin; at least one antenna element connected to the RF input pin; and at least one electronic component connected to the set of input pins, wherein the at least one electronic component has a value related to at least one property of the antenna.

Claims 38-42 are allowed for depending on claim 37.

Regarding claim 62, the antenna structure of Sato would enable the method of manufacturing an antenna comprising the steps of preparing a substrate; disposing at least one antenna element on the substrate; attaching a connector to the at least one antenna element; inserting at least one electronic component on the substrate in a location where it is not easily removed or modified. Sato, however, does not specifically teach that the electronic component is being surrounded by the at least one antenna element.

Regarding claim 64, Sato fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the electronic component is one of a resistor having a value selected to identify properties of the antenna, a resonant circuit having a resonant frequency that identifies properties of the antenna, and a microchip configured to transmit properties of the antenna.

Regarding claim 65, Sato fails to specifically teach, among other features, that the antenna is a dual element planar antenna.

Regarding claim 66, the antenna structure of Sato would enable the method of manufacturing an antenna comprising the steps of disposing at least one antenna element on a substrate; attaching a connector to the at least one antenna element; inserting at least one electronic component on the substrate. Sato, however, fails to specifically teach that the electronic component has a value related to at least one property of the antenna.

Art Unit: 2821

Claims 67-68 are allowed for depending on claim 66.

Regarding claim 69, the antenna structure of Sato would enable the method of manufacturing an antenna comprising the steps of disposing at least one antenna element on a substrate; attaching a connector to the at least one antenna element; inserting at least one electronic component on the substrate. Sato, however, fails to specifically teach that the electronic component is configured to identify at least one property of the antenna.

Claims 70-73 are allowed for depending on claim 69.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Patent 4,962,358 discloses an RF shielding integrity monitoring system.
- Patent 6,657,214 B1 discloses an enclosure for testing wireless communication device.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang V. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1825. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoang Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1825. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2821

11. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hvn
6/14/05



**HOANG V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**